

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

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WILLIAM CRENSHAW,

Plaintiff,

v.

JOHN SCIANDRA, et al.,

Defendant.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

10-CV-6207

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**Preliminary Statement**

*Pro se* plaintiff brings the instant action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 alleging various violations of his constitutional rights. See Complaint (Docket # 1). By Order of Judge David G. Larimer, dated October 14, 2010, all pretrial motions excluding dispositive motions have been referred to me pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A) and (B). (Docket # 18). Currently pending before the Court is plaintiff's motion to file a supplement to the Complaint (Docket # 43).

**Discussion**

With the instant motion to supplement, plaintiff seeks to add a new cause of action to the Complaint, namely an "obstruction of justice" claim under Sarbanes-Oxley provision 18 U.S.C. § 1503 against defendants Sciandra and Annunziata. (Docket # 43). Section 1503 is a federal criminal statute which makes it unlawful for a person to "corruptly or by threats or force, or by any threatening letter or communication, influence[], obstruct[], or impede[], or endeavor[] to influence, obstruct, or impede, the due administration of justice." 18 U.S.C. § 1503(a). This criminal statute does not

provide for a private right of action and, as a result, plaintiff would be unable to establish the defendants' liability on this proposed claim as a matter of law. See Zahl v. Kosovsky, No. 08 Civ. 8308, 2011 WL 779784, at \*10 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 3, 2011) (no private right of action under 18 U.S.C. § 1503); Peavey v. Holder, 657 F. Supp. 2d 180, 190 (D.D.C. 2009) (18 U.S.C. § 1503 is a "federal criminal obstruction of justice statute[]" which does "not create private causes of action"). Accordingly, since plaintiff's proposed claim would be futile, the Court hereby Orders that plaintiff's motion to supplement (Docket # 43) is **denied**.

Dispositive motions are currently pending before Judge Larimer (Dockets ## 61, 62) and Judge Larimer has stayed the remaining scheduling order deadlines pending the Court's decision on defendant's motion to dismiss (Docket # 61). See Order (Docket # 69). Plaintiff is advised that he should not file any further motions until Judge Larimer has decided the defendant's motion to dismiss.

**Conclusion**

Plaintiff's motion to supplement (Docket # 43) is **denied**.

**SO ORDERED.**

  
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JONATHAN W. FELDMAN  
United States Magistrate Judge

Dated: September 4, 2012  
Rochester, New York